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New-York Daily Tribune

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1896.

THIRTY-FOUR PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Baron von Schrader, the German nobleman, whom Count von Katze wounded in a duel, is lying at the point of death in a hospital in Potsdam. The Spanish Government is about to send 5,000 cavalry to Cuba in response to General Weyler's demand for more troops. It is reported in London that the Nile expedition is making slow headway, and that the entire Egyptian reserve fund may be absorbed.

CONGRESS.—The Senate was not in session. House: The bill imposing a tax on filled cheese was passed by a vote of 160 to 18.

DOMESTIC.—A secret political conference was held at the White House on Friday night, ex-Secretary Whitney being among those present. Charges of fraud and collusion in connection with the award of the seed corn to do to cost from \$300,000 to \$500,000, has been ordered as a gift to Princeton College.

The Boston Horse Show closed, having been a distinct success. John I. Martin, of St. Louis, was chosen as sergeant-at-arms of the Chicago Democratic Convention.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The Rev. Dr. Joseph Silverman was rebuked by Dr. Gottlieb for defending the Rev. Dr. D. Parker Morgan in the pulpit of the Temple Emanuel. A meeting to advocate the extension of the free circulating library system was held in Chicksen Hall. The 7th Regiment held its twenty-ninth annual athletic games at the armory. Ex-Consul John L. Waller returned and told his story of the trouble in Madagascar and France. Stocks were dull and strong.

THE WEATHER.—Forecast for today: Fair generally; possibly with showers in the early morning. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 54 degrees; lowest, 39; average, 47.

Judging by appearances, the Arctic and Antarctic poles will soon have no further secrets to reveal to the inquiring spirit of the present age, and to those who are in search of new fields of exploration we would recommend an investigation of the so-called Sargasso Sea, which has furnished the theme of more strange tales and legends even than the North Pole. It is to be feared that some of the myths will be destroyed by the article upon the subject published to-day, especially those which would lead one to believe that the Sargasso Sea is a species of floating continent that attracts and swallows all wreckage and vessels which approach too near. The supposition, too, that it is inhabited has no solid foundation. Still the sea presents a very interesting subject for investigation, as its mysteries have by no means been exhausted.

Attention is drawn to our London dispatches of to-day to the interesting diplomatic duel that is in progress between Mr. Chamberlain and President Kruger. Neither the one nor the other appears anxious to retain the statu quo, but while the British Government is determined to diminish the independence and the autonomy of the Boer Republic, the latter is equally decided to put an end to the suzerainty of England. This being the case, there seems to be but little prospect of any understanding, and everything points to the fact that matters are gradually drawing to a head in South Africa, and that before long the question at issue between Boer and Briton will have to be settled by means of an armed contest. It is one that will tax the energies of England, even though she is a colossus as compared with the plucky little Transvaal Republic. For the Boers have more than once inflicted ignominious defeat upon the troops of Queen Victoria.

Considerable indignation has been excited recently among the public by the news that a couple of privates of the National Guard had been sentenced to imprisonment for neglect to pay their military dues and fines. Inasmuch as it has generally been supposed until now that the barbarous custom of imprisoning a man for mere debt was obsolete in this State, The Tribune has taken the trouble to investigate the methods by which there has been what appears to be a revival of this odious practice. From the data upon the subject, which will be found printed elsewhere in our columns of to-day, it will be seen that imprisonment for debt, although abolished as far as ordinary citizens are concerned, still survives for our citizen-soldiers. This is unjust, and demands an immediate remedy, since it is obviously unfair to subject a citizen in pursuit of his ordinary avocations, and who is a soldier only in his spare moments, to the same discipline and penalties as a regular soldier on frontier service.

According to English historians, the Black Death, or Great Pestilence, which ravaged Europe in 1348, was the turning point in the national life of Great Britain. All existing institutions were shattered by the death of over half the population. It proved the close of the medieval period and the beginning of modern times. Elsewhere in our columns to-day "Ex-Attache" draws attention to the fact that the Black Death, of which a description is given, has made its appearance in China. It is ab-

sible that the visitation of this fearful plague may prove to the vast Mongolian Empire what it did to England 500 years ago—namely, the turning point in its national life, the close of medieval barbarism and the inauguration of a modern and enlightened era. China is a land of magnificent and incalculable possibilities. The influence of Confucianism has been to arrest its material progress and development, and has reduced its teeming population of 400,000,000 to a condition of intellectual and moral lethargy from which it may yet be awakened, as Great Britain was, by a visitation of that most terrible of all forms of pestilence, the "Black Death."

During the course of the week which opens to-day the people of New-York will enjoy the opportunity of gazing upon the Japanese Mikto—upon the Field Marshal Yamagata, to whose strategy, military science and foresight the marvellous success of the Mikado's troops in their recent war with China was principally due. It is as such that he has been selected by his sovereign to represent the Land of the Rising Sun at the Coronation of the Czar, and our State authorities propose to take advantage of his few days' stay in New-York to give some public form of expression of the admiration which the mastery leadership of the Japanese generals and the gallantry of their soldiers during the terrible winter campaign of 1895 excited throughout the civilized world, and especially here in the United States. It is understood that Governor Morton has in view a parade of the First Brigade of the National Guard in honor of our distinguished visitor.

THE MANHATTAN PEOPLE AND OTHERS.

Various propositions of a more or less definite character looking to an enlargement of the privileges enjoyed by the Manhattan Company have been made in the course of the last ten years, but they have not led to any important extension of its lines or improvement of its service. The discussion has lately been revived at hearings before the Mayor and in the newspapers, and we are glad of it, for the subject is extremely interesting from more than one point of view to a multitude of persons. The attitude of the Manhattan managers toward this matter has uniformly been unsatisfactory and at times peculiar. Though they have doubtless always been willing to accept concessions from the city on their own terms, based upon the theory that they were conferring a favor upon the people in operating their roads at all, they have never definitely signified a desire to develop their property in accordance with a just estimate of their public obligations. It is perfectly safe to say that this corporation is exceedingly unpopular on account of its consistent record of indifference to the general comfort and welfare. It has always produced the impression that it was doing as little as possible in return for what it had obtained from the city. And this apparent deliberate policy has been especially exasperating for the reason that it has seemed very foolish as well as unbecoming. A different theory of management would have been profitable as well as respectable. It cannot possibly have been judicious, for example, to afflict hundreds of thousands of passengers daily all these years with inferior lights in the cars, when other transportation companies were giving their patrons entire satisfaction in that regard.

But though the community does not owe the Manhattan Company goodwill, it owes itself a reasonable view of proposals concerning elevated railroad extensions. A former Rapid Transit Commission made the company certain definite offers, which were declined. The present Commission, we understand, is not averse to a grant of new privileges under conditions which would presumably accomplish large results without undue sacrifice of public and private rights. That, we think, is a suitable attitude for the people to assume with reference to this matter. A natural feeling of dislike for the company which has done far less for the general convenience than it ought to have done should not prevent the community from consulting its own interests. At present the Manhattan people are obviously planning to increase their dwindling revenues through the acquisition of additional privileges, but it is safe to say that the terms which they may be prepared to propose are not terms which the city can afford to accept. No doubt they would like to appropriate the traffic of the Brooklyn Bridge without expense to themselves, to monopolize Battery Park and to make their own choice of streets for the expansion of their system. Mr. Russell Sage has just given characteristic expression to his views on this general subject, explaining the enormous obligations under which the Manhattan Company has placed the city of New-York, and his disposition to accept an acknowledgment thereof in the form of new and gratuitous concessions. But Mr. Sage's opinions in this matter do not coincide with those to which a majority of his fellow-citizens persistently adhere.

There is another consideration in this case which, if it should come to be thoroughly understood, might be expected to induce a more modest frame of mind in the Manhattan managers. There was a belief amounting to a conviction on the part of citizens who closely followed the protracted and futile proceedings of the old Rapid Transit Commission that the Manhattan Company was the chief obstacle in the way of progress during all that time. Over the present Commission the elevated railroad people have never exercised a similar influence, but there is considerable reason to believe, nevertheless, that they have been working secretly and industriously during the last year; that they supported the contest before the Supreme Court Commissioners; that they are behind the appeal now pending on constitutional grounds, and that their zeal is not wholly unrelated to the circumstance that the amendments to the Rapid Transit law which were recently reported in both branches of the Legislature have suddenly been recommitted in one branch and are about to be recommitted in the other. Now the people of New-York by a large majority deliberately voted in favor of the undertaking which the Rapid Transit Commission is faithfully endeavoring to execute, and they are not in a mood to be balked by a corporation which would like to enjoy a permanent monopoly, but which has never been able to meet the requirements of the city, nor willing to do its full duty. We commend this fact to the careful attention of the Manhattan Company and of the Legislature.

FOR UNION OF TWO REALMS.

Amid the diplomatic entanglements and military threatenings that now disturb the world the dispute over the succession to the throne of Lippe must not be overlooked. It is as yet a purely domestic affair. Yet so was our own Civil War. It involves the sovereignty of a proud and ancient realm, and the legitimate perpetuation of an ancient dynasty. Upon its settlement depends the rulership of that spot which should, of all in the world, be most sacred to the German spirit of militarism, the field on which Arminius vanquished and destroyed the Roman legions of Varus.

Last year, it will be remembered, the reigning Prince of Lippe-Detmold died, and a dispute arose as to who should be his successor, pending the settlement of which Prince Adolphus of Lippe-Schaumburg, a brother-in-law of the German Emperor, was appointed Regent. There were three claimants, representing respectively the three lines of Lippe-Schaumburg, Lippe-Weissenfeld and Lippe-Biesterfeld. The alleged rights and titles of each were urged with great vehemence by the ablest jurists in the realm.

and the controversy attracted much attention throughout the Empire. The latest contribution to it comes from Dr. Laband, of the University of Strasburg, who is probably the foremost authority on such matters in all Germany. He has just published a pamphlet, in which he argues that both the Counts of Lippe and the Weissenfeld and Biesterfeld lines must be ruled out of the competition, because some of their female ancestors were of plebeian birth, and that the succession must fall upon the reigning Prince of Lippe-Schaumburg, the eldest brother of the present Regent, whose house has in all generations maintained the azure serenity of its blood.

If this judgment shall go into effect, the two puissant realms of Lippe-Detmold and Lippe-Schaumburg will be united under a common head. How great a revolution this will mean in the affairs of Europe may be reckoned from the fact that the former has an area of 480 square miles and a population of 128,495, and the latter an area of 131 square miles and a population of 39,163. Together the United Principalities will therefore have a somewhat larger area than, and just about the same population as, the county of Albany in this State. We shall see to what extent this consolidation of forces will affect the domestic balance of power in the German Empire. Probably a micrometer will be required to measure the effect. But why should not the smallest realms have their revolutions and their Acts of Settlement as well as the greatest?

IN THE OPEN AIR.

The riders of bicycles are now so formidable in numbers and in zeal that legislatures bow before them, and even the most haughty and arrogant of Alkermes hasten to do their bidding. Our State Senate and Assembly were pretty nearly unanimous in adopting the bill which will compel the railroads to carry wheels without charge as the personal baggage of passengers. It is evident that the wishes of the devotees of the "safeties" carry great weight at Albany and elsewhere. In everything except the backward weather the times smile upon the armies of enthusiasts who find their greatest delight in pushing pedals, and April will soon beam benignantly upon the hosts of votaries of good roads. The chief problem before riders is the finding of sufficient area of easy access for their enjoyment without crowding. So many men, women and children are now adepts with the handle-bars, and so big are the throngs of rapidly advancing pupils in the schools, that ere long our parks and boulevards, our avenues and our streets, may be far too narrow for the legions of eager riders. Meanwhile the makers of wheels are rubbing their hands and chortling in their joy as their bank accounts go jumping up to stupendous totals.

The baseball zealots in this capital are not so cheerful and exultant as are the manufacturers and the users of the bicycles. New-York's baseball club was managed in such a way last year as to deserve much severe criticism, and the management was covered with public disesteem as with a garment at the end of the season. Unfortunately, the men who control the organization are showing this year the same lack of judgment, the same narrowness of views and the same peevish petulance which made them so unpopular in 1895. The outlook for the New-York Baseball Club is distinctly discouraging, and many admirers of the game are likely to seek consolation for their griefs and disappointments over the defeats of the New-York nine by devoting themselves to golf or some other form of entertainment. In fact, they may possibly become so despondent and so desperate as to abandon baseball altogether.

The drivers of fast trotters are not much more jubilant than the followers of the so-called National Game. They were anticipating with the highest hopes the use of the Speedway this season. But the work on the Speedway was put in the hands of Tammany contractors, and for a considerable time Tammany office-holders approved careless and unsatisfactory construction. The result is, as a witty after-dinner speaker remarked recently: "We have on our hands a 'Tammany Speedway,' and the trouble is that 'the bottom has dropped out of it.' Hence fast horses are not likely to be seen on the Speedway at an early day, and Jerome-ave. is in a chaotic condition. The men who hold the reins over the Arions and Smoils of the road are not, as a rule, richly endowed with the patience of Job, and, naturally, they are inclined to find fault while their opportunities for their favorite diversion are so restricted as they now are.

But if the baseball worshippers and the lovers of swift trotting stock are downhearted, the wearers of Scotch golfing suits, the keepers of wickets, the members of yacht clubs, and the friends of the thoroughbred have reasons for rejoicing. Golf links abound, and so do steam and sailing yachts, while of cricket players there is no lack. Adorers of rapid running on the racetracks feel sure that the contests of the turf in the Empire State will be more attractive in 1896 than ever before and better managed. High-class sports of many varieties will flourish in the United States this year. Great flocks of Americans in search of pleasure will go to Europe in 1896 as they have gone in many previous years. But if they look around a little, intelligent Americans can find plenty of fun at home.

DR. STIMSON'S RESIGNATION.

An Episcopal clergyman recently told a story of how a faithful and hard-working rector was forced to resign his charge by the influential woman of the parish, her ground of opposition being the fact that his complexion did not harmonize with the chancel windows and furnishings. Possibly the story was somewhat embellished in the telling; but it is certain that objections quite as frivolous have often been successfully urged against clergymen in all denominations. In the clerical profession adaptability is often as necessary as ability. Indeed, without it, especially where the church is a purely voluntary organization, depending for its support on the goodwill of the people, it is absolutely essential that the pastor should be personally and socially, as well as intellectually, acceptable to the members of his flock. Ordinarily, a good all-around clergyman finds little difficulty in meeting these requirements; but the best-equipped man may utterly fail to do so, owing to many causes for which he is in no sense responsible. Even though his people may admit that he received his appointment from on high, they are none the less sure that they have the right to terminate it on any pretext that they may see fit to urge. It is not only in the divorce courts that incompatibility of temperament is recognized as a legitimate cause of separation. It reduces to waste paper many a ministerial call that was once looked upon as directly inspired by the Holy Ghost.

The resignation this last week under regrettable circumstances of the Rev. Dr. Henry A. Stimson from the pastorate of the Broadway Tabernacle, of this city, is in many respects a good illustration of what we have been saying. It is admitted by all who know him that he is a man of more than ordinary intellectual force. As an organizer and worker he has made an honorable record in the churches of which he has been a pastor, and personally he possesses the manners of a cultured Christian gentleman. When he was induced to leave his flourishing St. Louis church, to become the pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle as the successor of Dr. Taylor, everybody believed that he was the ideal man for the place. Yet, after a short pastorate, he has felt it his duty to resign his charge, owing to the passive, if not active, opposition of many members of the congregation. His faith-

fulness and ability were not denied; it was admitted that his preaching was spiritual and uplifting; but the admirers of Dr. Taylor failed to find in it the peculiar qualities that distinguished the preaching of their former pastor. So far as the public knows, this was the only objection to Dr. Stimson; in his ministrations he was himself and not a replica of Dr. Taylor. It suggests, in somewhat different form, the story of the rector referred to above. The Broadway Tabernacle does not ask that its pastor shall harmonize with its chancel furnishings, for the good reason, among others, that it has no chancel. But it would appear that many of its members do expect that its new incumbent shall reproduce the intellectual and spiritual tone colors of its late revered pastor, and when he fails to do that, as any man must, he finds that his usefulness as a pastor is ended. That, in brief, is the meaning of Dr. Stimson's resignation.

We would not be understood as speaking in criticism of the officers of the Tabernacle. However irrational and unjust to Dr. Stimson it may have been, the opposition to him because he was not another Dr. Taylor was a fact; and, charged as they were with the guardianship of the church's pecuniary interests, the officers were in duty bound to take account of that fact. It would, perhaps, be too much to say that nobody was to blame for the unfortunate outcome of Dr. Stimson's pastorate. But the public are not altogether in a position to apportion the blame just where it may belong. The fact that is evident is that a clergyman, admirably equipped for the work of a pastor, has had the misfortune not to succeed in one particular church, owing to special circumstances existing there. That he has succeeded in churches in the past is a matter of record, and that he will succeed in the future in some other church is the hope and belief of all who are privileged to know him either personally or by reputation. As for the Broadway Tabernacle, while we hope that it will find a pastor with whom all its members will be able to work in cordial sympathy and harmony, we fear it will not succeed in doing so if it continues to look for an exact reproduction of Dr. Taylor. Unless rumor is much at fault, even Dr. Taylor in his latter years did not altogether succeed in holding the congregation together.

There are many flippant sneers current about the easy life of a clergyman; but so far as the clergy of the great cities are concerned, these sneers are entirely pointless. No men in the community work harder than such clergymen as Archbishop Corrigan, Bishop Potter, Dr. John Hall, Dr. Faunce or Dr. Rainford—to name only a few who are more prominently before the public. Not only must the metropolitan pastor be an effective preacher; he must be a good parish organizer and an able man of business. In fact, he must have much the same equipment as a railroad or bank president. The first Apostles said it was not reason that they should leave the Word of God—that is, preaching pure and simple—and serve tables or attend to the more secular side of Christian work. But the modern city pastor to-day must do both, and do them pre-eminently well, else he will speedily find himself out of the running. It does not follow, therefore, that a clergyman who receives a metropolitan call is to be congratulated. For, unless he has the many special gifts and aptitude that a city pastor should possess no greater misfortune could happen to him.

A DEBT OF HONOR.

When the North was in terror on account of Lee's invasion which culminated at Gettysburg, twenty-five regiments of the New-York National Guard and numerous volunteers from New-Jersey and Maryland promptly responded to an appeal for aid in resisting his approach. The service which they thus rendered was patriotic and valuable in a high degree. Such was the official estimate of it at the time, and there has never been a different opinion from that day to this. These men were not drawn from their homes into a doubtful and dangerous enterprise by an offer of bounty. Their motive was as fine as their help was indispensable. The quality of their act was fully recognized in the order of the War Department that medals of honor should be presented to them as a token of National gratitude.

The promise was made, but it has never been redeemed. It is not agreeable to the country, and the obligation to remove it so far as possible has not diminished with the passing years. For the purpose of discharging this sacred obligation of the Government, Congressman Quigg has introduced a joint resolution which provides that medals suitably inscribed shall be struck and in the name of Congress presented to survivors of the volunteer forces to whom the original promise was made, or to such survivors of their families as the President may designate. The Senate and Assembly at Albany have properly advocated the resolution; it ought to be adopted in Congress by a unanimous vote and a debt of honor paid.

THE SILVER BOLTERS.

The performances in Utah will assuredly diminish the Republican House not to be particularly hasty in acting on bills for the admission of other silver States. There are enough Senators already who represent, or at least feel disposed to represent, nothing under the sun but one relatively small interest, of which the annual product is not a two-hundredth part of the production of manufactures. If there are to be bolters to the Silver party this year, as some men threaten, it may be as well to let Territories grow for a while, until they have become something more than mining camps, and have acquired some ideas of money and of government broader than those which the mining camp appears to teach.

The so-called Republicans of Utah would like to have their delegates to the St. Louis Convention go out of it unless they can have their own way about silver coinage. This latest-born child of the Union assumes rather prematurely the role of dictator. The rest of the world is not yet aware that Utah possesses such superiority in education, in practical knowledge, in business experience or in morals, as to be entitled to dictate to seventy-two millions of American citizens, whose wise government of the country has made something like a decent society and a state of freedom possible in Utah. It might, perhaps, be as well for the Mormon element to refrain from thrusting itself too prominently before the eyes of the people just at present, and modestly in attempting to dictate a National policy would be in that new State highly becoming.

Whether the bolting silver Senators "mean nothing but a bluff," as some affirm, or really intend to bolt and set up a candidate of their own, in either case their threats will go far to move the Republican National Convention to an extremely definite and positive statement of Republican principles and purposes. That statement, it is safe to say, will be precisely what the silver Senators aforesaid do not want and will not approve. They have been pretending to be Republicans, these Senators who have voted to defeat a tariff bill proposed by the party, and have excused themselves by palpalably untruthful constructions of the National platform of 1892. This year they are likely to get in answer to their threats a platform which they will not find it easy to misconstrue. There is practically no difference whatever in the opinion of Republicans in twenty-five States which are able to elect a President, a majority of the Senate and a majority of the House, and every threat by silver men, every fraud and construc-

tion of past Republican platforms, strongly impels this vast body of Republican voters to state their purpose so flatly that neither silver-miner owners nor silver-stock speculators nor anybody else can mistake it.

The surface railroads of Brooklyn are stout enough rivals in their regular business, but when their common interests are threatened, or they think they are, by the proposal of the elevated roads to run trains directly across the Bridge, they find no difficulty in joining hands to prevent, if possible, the carrying out of the project. The old proverb about misery making strange bedfellows can now have a new meaning read into it.

After those Olympic games our nomenclature must be revised. Instead of Boston vaulting herself as the Athens of America, it must be Athens's highest ambition to be known as the Boston of Greece.

The Naval Appropriation bill has been well amended in one respect; that is, in substituting three torpedo-boat catchers at 30 knots an hour for five torpedo-boats at 25 knots. The three will be worth twice as much as the five would have been. For all craft of that style, 30 knots an hour is now the minimum effective speed.